



COMMUNITY NEWS

District 1

Vol. 30 Scottsdale Police Department District 1 Station 3700 N. 75th Street. Scottsdale, AZ 85251 (480) 312-2716 February 2007



- Is Bill Gates going to pay you money to forward e-mail?
- Are terrorists buying UPS uniforms to plan the next big terrorist act?
- Is a businessman from Nigeria going to send you millions of dollars for helping him bring money into this country?

The answers to these questions are **NO!** If you have received these or similar e-mails, then you are familiar with Internet hoaxes usually sent to you by well meaning friends.

An Internet hoax is an urban myth or cyber myth spread by e-mail. Most Internet hoaxes are false, but a few are true or based on the truth.

Three things that make a hoax successful:

1. Sounds like it's coming from a credible source.
2. Uses technical language
3. Uses the phrase "forward this to everyone you know!"

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MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER SCOTT POPP

At the beginning of February we will celebrate another milestone not only for the police department but also for the citizens of Scottsdale. Ground breaking for the new District One facility will take place.

The new station will be located at the southeast corner of McKellips Road and Miller Road, what was known as the "Old Corp Yard." Several city facilities will soon be located on this parcel of land.

Uniformed Patrol services along with several other police functions will operate out of this new location. The original station located at 3700 N. 75th Street will continue to be the operations center for the Downtown units.

Commander Scott Popp
480-312-2571
spopp@scottsdaleaz.gov

(Internet Hoaxes continued)

There are also some hoax e-mails that take a true warning and makes changes that turn it into a hoax. One warning about returning a call from the "809" area code (Dominican Republic – can charge by the minute similar to a US "900" phone number) was altered. The original warning said that for every minute the scammers kept you on line, you were charged \$24-\$25 per minute. The hoax e-mail now says that you will be charged \$2425 per minute!

If you receive an e-mail and don't know if it's true or not, look for these signs:

- The information has never been in the news (TV, radio, or print).
- The e-mail doesn't refer to a specific person or a specific location.
- Use the Internet to search for the keywords of the message to see if it's a known hoax.
- It ends with the line "forward this to everyone you know!"

To check out the information on e-mail, go to these websites:

Urban Legends Website - www.snopes.com
Scambusters - www.scambusters.org

The Urban Legends website has a great search engine. Type in a few keywords (e.g. Bill Gates or e-mail tracking program) and you will see a variety of possible hoaxes.

Hoax e-mails are a problem if they cause reasonable people to stop patronizing a business that some hoax alleges is doing something terrible. The bulk forwarding of hoax e-mails results in clogged e-mail servers and misinformation. If you can't verify the authenticity of an e-mail forwarded by a friend, please don't "forward it to everyone you know!"

If you have questions about Internet hoaxes, please contact Officer Kory Sneed at 480-312-0275 or by e-mail at ksneed@scottsdaleaz.gov

Citizen's Police Academy

Sign up now for the Class XXXI of the Scottsdale Police Department's Citizen's Police Academy. The class begins on Wednesday February 28, 2007 and runs for 12 consecutive Wednesdays until May 16, 2007.

To register, please contact Community Liaison Officer Chris Vassal at 480-312-1922 or e-mail cvassal@scottsdaleaz.gov.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 22, 2007

Self-Awareness Class

The Scottsdale Police Department will be hosting its next **FREE** "Highly Interactive Self Awareness Class" on Thursday, February 22, 2007 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. The class will teach you to lessen your chances of becoming a victim of crime and how to be a better witness to a potentially harmful threat. For more information or to register, call Officer Ruffennach at 480-312-5696

February 28, 2007

Scottsdale Career Fair

Scottsdale invites job seekers to attend the City's Career Fair from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm on Wednesday, Feb. 28 in the atrium of the One Civic Center Building, 7447 E. Indian School Rd. The Career Fair provides job seekers a chance to learn more about the current and future positions with the city. Job postings are available on the City's website www.scottsdaleaz.gov or calling the job line at 480-312-2395. For more information, please call the City's Human Resources office at 480-312-2491.

The Scottsdale Police Department



Wants You!

The Scottsdale Police Department has excellent job opportunities in the following fields:

Police Officer, Police Aide, Communications, Detention Officers, Crime Lab, Records, and Crime Scene Specialists. Visit our website at www.Scottsdalepd.com or contact Officer Greg Carlin at 480-312-5384 or e-mail: gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov.